

HOW TO USE

This CD contains a collection of primary sources gathered for Teaching American History participants. These documents tie broader themes of American History to South Carolina events and people. They are arranged chronologically within the broad topics of the ten days of the Teaching American History Summer Institutes. The Table of Contents gives a brief description of each document and allows you to click on the name of the document to get to a readable version (PDF), with its citation and transcription. Also included in the CD are movable files (DOC or JPEG) of each document, citation, and transcription, arranged in folders by day, to facilitate the use of the documents in the classroom. Within each day's folder, separate folders exist for each document where you can access the moveable versions of the image, citation, and transcription.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

With primary sources, students interpret historical events through the words and images left by real people inhabiting a living past. Further, local primary sources personalize broad topics, providing powerful experiences in constructing historical understanding. Working with primary sources develops critical analysis and creative thinking. Of course, primary documents can also be used to teach English and language arts, math and science.

This Treasure Trove consists primarily of written or typed documents, intended to supplement information from cultural institutions visited throughout the Summer Institutes. Other types of primary sources accessible through the cultural institutions, such as artifacts, objects, art, buildings, or geographic locations, can be incorporated into the teaching of history. Such sources can be "read" in much the same way as words. Most exciting, cultural institutions are willing to share their resources and their passion for history with teachers and students.

CREDITS

Primary sources were collected, cited, annotated, and transcribed (unless otherwise noted) by **Katie Johnson** and **Anna Kuntz**, Graduate Research Assistants for Teaching American History in South Carolina.

These documents herein are provided courtesy of the **South Carolina Department of Archives and History** and the **South Caroliniana Library**.

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To learn more about Teaching American History in South Carolina, and to see teacher-created lessons and other exciting resources, go to www.teachingUShistory.org

2005 TREASURE TROVE

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Description

Susan Blanding moved after her marriage to Dr. William Blanding to Camden, South Carolina, for his medical practice. This letter to her sister back in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, illustrates Susan Blanding's feelings towards the South and slavery. On the first page, Blanding mentions how she dislikes the South and slavery compared to the industry and liberty of the North, but continues with an unfavorable report of the work ethic of the slaves. On the last page, Blanding says that although they do not own any slaves at present, they would be forced to if they decided to stay. Her letter indicates that she dislikes slavery, but she is not an abolitionist.

Citation

Blanding, Susan. Letter to Elizabeth Carpenter dated 2 December 1808. William Blanding Papers. South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3-4.1: Compare the conditions of daily life for various classes of people in South Carolina, including the elite, the middle class, the lower class, the independent farmers, and the free and enslaved African Americans. (H,E)

Indicator 3-4.2: Summarize the institution of slavery prior to the Civil War, including reference to conditions in South Carolina, the invention of the cotton gin, subsequent expansion of slavery, and economic dependence on slavery. (H, E, P)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.1: Compare the industrial North and the agricultural South prior to the Civil War, including the specific nature of the economy of each region, the geographic characteristics and boundaries of each region, and the basic way of life in each region. (G, E, H)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.1: Explain the importance of agriculture in antebellum South Carolina, including plantation life, slavery, and the impact of the cotton gin. (H, G, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.1: Compare the social and cultural characteristics of the North, the South, and the West during the antebellum period, including the lives of African Americans and social reform movements such as abolition and women's rights. (H, P, G)

Susan Blanding Letter, 1808 TRANSCRIPTION

Camden Dec. 2nd 1808

I commence writing after an almost sleepless night which must in part plead for the inconnectnes [sic] of my scrall [sic]. Yesterday was the day of thanksgiving with you with you; with us, it was the day of celebrating the nuptials of M^r. Dickerson & Miss Brevard. A splendid Ball, and Elegant supper concluded the scene — About three weeks ago M^r. Deas was married to Miss Margaret Chesnet the following evening she gave a ball [illegible] from Charleston — two others were given in consequence — but I only went to here's as one evening was very rainy; and the other I did not feel in the humors of going. I am not fond of these great parties. I can assure you I am not very well pleased with S. Carolina, I think a person to quit the Northern States to spend their life in the southern; must make a great sacrifice, yes sacrificing a land of Liberty for a land of slavery — a land flowing with milk and honey by the industry of the husbandman for a land of luxury acquired by the hearts blood of the poor ignorant Africans — Such indeed is the difference — I hope if we should be prospered a few years that we shall be able to return and take up a lasting abode in New England; you must not conclude from where I have written that I am unhappy for I am not. I spend any my time quite a greeably [sic] away in retrospection and anticipation — I ride out very seldom & never have been out of Camden farther than three miles —

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There is little pleasure in travelling [sic] this country nothing but plain unvaried scene before you nothing to please the eye, or delight the mind. Betsey rides but seldom her horse runs away sometimes which makes here timid about riding without her husband — We have moved from Mrs. L. to Abrams' where we turn in such a part of the provisions — & I superintend half the time, which I dislike, the Negros [sic] are such eye servants that you must tell every thing over half dozen times, & then watch, or else it will not be done & then done to the halves; more perplexity than to do it ones self. I believe you would be surprised to see their kitchen & furniture so dinty [sic], they keep their kitchen that one is obliged to tuck their clothes as close to them as possible else you'd get [illegible] & the furniture consists of a few iron pots, frying pan & waffle iron & a few other utensils — the Negros [sic] never pretend to wash their things till ready to use them — We should keep house by ourselves if there was not a probability of our returning before any great length of time. There is a new physician coming into this place next month which perhaps will diminish Wm's business in some measure, that he is pretty universally liked. This day he rode out 22 miles — it is not often he takes such excursions his business is chiefly in Camden he has been very busy since the sickly season commenced pleurisies among Negroes prevail, they being so much exposed to the inclemencies [sic] of the weather; the whites are as healthy as at any place W^m & myself have enjoyed

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good health, as also Abram's — I doubt whether you see Abram very soon. Betsey wishes to go in such high stile that I think they will not afford it yet, he would go without her and



Susan Blanding Letter, 1808 TRANSCRIPTION

make a short visit with you, if she would be willing she says no & tis fixed —

If troublesome times should come one, I think I should make the best of my way to New England too many Negroes for times of war, in this place. We own no slaves yet nor do I wish to, unless we should conclude to settle in this place, then it would necessary —

We have had no news of the things you sent on & begin to think they are either lost at sea or have gone out to the West Indies in defiance to the Embargo or driven by unfavourable [sic] winds to some foreign part.

M^r. Champion has been here since his return his excursion has not improved him much, he looks uglier, than ever & gets intoxicated everyday he said he took a great liking to Susan admired her manners, but all to no purpose. I dare say I should rather live in a hovel without him, than with him in a palace —

Remember me to all enquirers — & my love to you all & believe me to be yours, sincerely

Susan Blanding

To all whom it may concern

[Post scripts on outside page]

My mouth waters for a bit of mothers cheese but I fear I shall never see it

Tell Mrs. Pearce & Lucy how do for me & tell them I am as fat & as hearty as every and pretty lazy besides

Betsey wishes to be remembered to you all

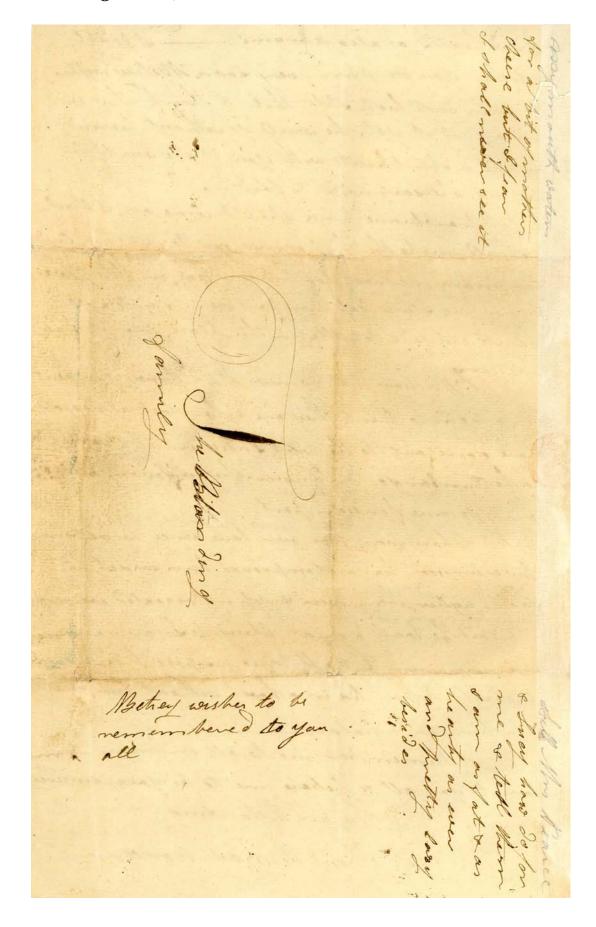
Cameler Sec. 27 1808 I commence writing of for an almost sleeples might which must plead for the in connecties of my scrall in fret Gesterday was the day of tranks given y with your with us, it was theday of celebrating the nuplials of the Dickerson of Miss Brevard a splendid Ball, and Elegant supper concluded the scene - about Three weeks a of Mi Seas was married to Min Margaret Chem the following evening who gave a tall flayers from Charleston two others were given consequence - but I only went to here's as one evening was very mainy; and the other of fond of those queat partiese con assure you Jum not very well pleased with of bardina, I think a person to opit the southern states to spend their life in the southern; must make a great Jaconifice, yer sucrificeing a land of Liberty for a land of slavery a land flowing with milke for a land of horany, acquired by the hearts blood of the poor ignorant afreans Such indeed is the difference should prospered a few years that we shall be able to weturn and take up a lasting abode in Mew Congland, you must not conclude from what I have written that I am unhappy for I am not I spendany quite a greeably away in netrospection never have been out of Barnden farther than

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good health, as also abrams' __ I doubt whether you see abram very soon. Betrug wither to goin such high still that I think they will not aff and it yet, he would go without her and make a shout visit with you, if she wan ld be willing she says no. & his fixed. If troubles one times should come on, I trink I should make the best of my way to New. England too many negroes for times of war, in this place. we own no slaves yet nor do I wish An unless we should conclude to settle in this place, then it would necessary We have had no news of the things you sent on, & begin to think they are either lost at sea or have done out to the west Indies in Desprance to the Combando, on driver by refavourable winds to some foreign port. Mr. Chamfion has been here since his meturn his exension has not improved him om uch, he lanks uglier, than even & ofth intoxicated every day he said he took a great liking to Susan advised her manners, but all to no purpose, I Jane say I should nather live in a hovel without him, than with him in a palace themen ber me to all en ymens - & me love to you all & believe me to be your, sincerely Julan Blanding Da all whom its may boncern

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Susan Blanding Letter, 1808



Description

In May of 1822, a plot for a slave insurrection planned for July was uncovered in Charleston. Denmark Vesey, a free black who purchased his freedom in 1800, was the leader of the insurrection, which planned to take the city of Charleston. After a lengthy trial, Vesey and over thirty others were condemned to death and hanged. After the insurrection, laws were passed to restrict the movement of slaves. These documents provide a summary of the insurrection and trial in the governor's messages to the General Assembly, and two pages of the 202 page-long court report of the examination of slaves during the trial. The summary works hard to convince the reader that the insurrection was not large or extensive (that whites are not in danger), and safety was insured if citizens uphold the state slave patrol laws, which had been instituted since the 1740 Slave Code, written in response to the Stono Rebellion.

Citation

"Court Proceedings and Testimony Regarding the Vesey Rebellion," June 1822-August 1822, 1-2. General Assembly. Governors' messages. S 165009. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Executive Department. "Narrative of the Events Comprising the Vesey Rebellion," 10 August 1822. General Assembly. Governors' messages. S 165009. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3-4.2: Summarize the institution of slavery prior to the Civil War, including reference to conditions in South Carolina, the invention of the cotton gin, subsequent expansion of slavery, and economic dependence on slavery. (H, E, P)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.3: Draw conclusions about how sectionalism arose from events or circumstances of racial tension, internal population shifts, and political conflicts, including the Denmark Vesey plot, slave codes, and the African American population majority. (H, P, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.1: Compare the social and cultural characteristics of the North, the South, and the West during the antebellum period, including the lives of African Americans and social reform movements such as abolition and women's rights. (H, P, G)

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

CHARLESTON, August 10th, 1822.

SIR,

AFTER a prolonged and almost uninterrupted session of six weeks, the first Court organized for the trial of Slaves charged with an attempt to raise an Insurrection in this City, was dissolved on the 20th ult. Another Court was subsequently convened, and after a session of three days, closed the unpleasant investigation with which it was charged, and adjourned on the 8th

instant, sine die.

During the interesting period occupied by the Court first organized, the public mind was agitated by a variety of rumours calculated to produce great excitement and alarm. These had their origin in the nature of the transaction, and the secrecy and seclusion observed in the incipient stages of inquiry; as but few of the circumstances were known to the community, and the number apprehended and sentenced to the severest punishment, beyond any former example. Certainty gave place to exaggeration, and the general impression sustained the rumour of a very extensive conspiracy.

The effects resulting from these reports, if uncontrolled by an exhibition of the facts, are too obvious to require comment. The reputation of the State must suffer abroad, and a rapid deterioration of property occur within; while suspicion and anxiety will continue long to mar the public

tranquillity. It becomes, therefore, a duty imperiously obligatory on me, to represent the occurrences as they have transpired, and thus evidence to you, that the attempt has not only been greatly magnified, but as soon as discovered, it ceased to be dangerous.

A servant prompted by attachment to his master, communicated to him, that he had been requested to give his assent and subscribe his name to a list of persons already engaged in the conspiracy. The Intendant immediately received the information, and caused the arrest of three slaves of Mr. Paul, one of whom was subsequently identified by the servant making the communislaves of Mr. Paul: one of whom was subsequently identified by the servant making the communication. The City Council was convened, and after a very close and attentive examination, a general impression was produced, that but little credence could attach to the statement. A prudent caution was nevertheless exercised, and the fellow charged committed to solitary imprisonment. A few days after his confinement, he made many disclosures to a member of Council, but so amplified the circumstances, that the utmost credulity was requisite to the belief of his tale.

Some consternation was obviously produced amongst a few of the conspirators by the arrest of these slaves, and I cannot doubt led to a detail more plausible and deserving of attention. Another servant, whose name is also concealed from prudential motives stated generally, that such a combination actually existed and mentioned the names of several who were most conspicuous in their exertions, adding with great confidence, that the explosion of their schemes would occur on the ensuing Sunday Night. This confession was given on Thursday the 13th June, and contained the recital of several occurrences which would precede the attempt and evidence the intention. This suggested the propriety, while it sanctioned the effort to conceal from the community the intelligence thus received for the intervening time; during which, extensive and efficient preparations were made for the safety and protection of the City. Saturday night and Sunday morning passed without the predicted demonstrations: doubts were again excited, and counter orders issued diminishing the guard. The facts communicated were generally known to our fellow citizens on Sunday; producing a night of sleepless anxiety. But no one of the predicted (or any other) occurrences, presented itself to disturb the general tranquillity.

On the 18th June, ten slaves were arrested, and on the 19th, the Court was organized for their

trial. Investigation was retarded by the difficulty of procuring authentic evidence, and it was not until the 28th that the sentence of death was pronounced against six of the persons charged with the offence. Denmark Vesey, a free negro, was arrested on the 21st, and on the 22d put on his trial. Although he was unquestionably the instigator and chief of this plot, no positive proof of his guilt appeared until the 25th. This grew out of the confession of one of the convicts, and on

the 27th, his guilt was further established by a servant of Mr. Ferguson.

The progress made, and the expectations of immunity from punishment by confession, gradually developed the plot, and produced the arrest of several others, fortunately two who were principals, Monday Gell and Gullah Jack. These with three others, John Horry, Charles Drayton, and Harry Haig were convicted, and sentenced to die on Friday the 12th July last; but at the suggestion of the Court, that important communications were expected from them, Monday Gell, Charles Drayton, and Harry Haig were respited.

The arrest of Perault a servant of Mr. Strohecker, which took place the day previous to the respite and the general and very important discoveries made by him, enabled the Committee of Vigilance, not only to elicit the confirmation of his statement from the three convicts, but to apprehend a great number of persons engaged in the plot. Among others, William Garner, reputed to be one of the principals, the only one not then apprehended.

The number of persons at this period under arrest evinced the necessity of such arrangements of

the testimony, as would enable the Court to progress with more rapidity. This duty devolved on the Committee of Vigilance: and principally from the general information of Perault, and of the convicts Monday Gell and Charles Drayton, facility was given to the further proceedings of the Court. In the short space of seven days, thirty-two Negroes were convicted; twenty-two of whom were executed on Friday the 20th July; and within four days after, eleven others were con-

victed, four of whom have also been executed.

Having established the existence of a plot and the places of rendezvous, all that was deemed requisite for conviction, was to prove an association with the Ringleaders, and an expression of their assent to the measure. On such, generally, the sentence of death has been executed. Others, who without actually combining, were proved to have known of the conspiracy, and to have given their sanction by any act, have been sentenced to die, and their punishment commuted to banishment from the United States; or sentenced in the first instance to banishment from this State, or from the United States. In this manner the whole number, seventy-two, have been disposed of; thirty-five executed and thirty-seven sentenced to banishment. With these we may reasonably conclude, that we have reached the extremities of this conspiracy, and this opinion, if not conclusive, is entitled to great weight, when we advert to the extraordinary measures pursued, to effect the object and the motives which influenced the accused.

No means which experience or ingenuity could devise were left unessayed, to eviscerate the plot. In the labours of investigation, the Court was preceded by a Committee formed by the City Council, whose intelligence, activity and zeal were well adapted to the arduous duties of their appointment. Their assiduity, aid to be considered to the prisoners, produced a rapid developement of the plot. Several of the conspirators had entered into solemn pledges, to partake of a common destiny, and one at least was found, who after his arrest, felt no repugnance to enforce the obligation, by surrendering the names of his associates. A spirit of retaliation and revenge produced a similar effect with others, who suspected that they were the victims of treachery; and this principle operated with full effect, as the hope or expectation of pardon predominated. To the last hour of the existence of several, who appeared to be conspicuous actors in this drama, they were pressingly importuned to make further confessions.

Among the conspirators the most daring and active, was Monday, the slave of Mr. Gell. He could read and write with facility, and thus attained an extraordinary and dangerous influence over his fellows. Permitted by his owner to occupy a house in a central part of the city, hourly opportunities were afforded for the exercise of his skill, on those, who were attracted to his shop by business or favour. It was there that his artful and insidious delusions were kept in perpetual exercise. Materials were abundantly furnished in the seditious pamphlets brought into this state, by equally culpable incendiaries; while the speeches of the oppositionists in congress to the admission of Missouri, gave a serious and imposing effect to his machinations. This man wrote to Boyer (by his own confession) requesting his aid, and addressed the envelope of his letter to a relative of the person, who became the bearer of it, a negro from one of the Northern States.—
He was the only person proved to have kept a list of those engaged; and the Court considered his confession full and ample. From such means and such sources of information, it cannot be doubted that all who were actually concerned, have been brought to justice. There is no exception within my knowledge; it has, however, been stated, that a plantation in St. John's was infected, but I do not know on what authority.

This plain detail of the principal incidents in this transaction will satisfy you, that the scheme has not been general nor alarmingly extensive. And it furnishes a cause for much satisfaction, that although religion, superstition, fear and almost every passion that sways the human mind, have been artfully used by the wicked instigators of this design, so few have been seduced from a course of propriety and obedience. Those who associated were unprovided with the means of attack or resistance. No weapons (if we except thirteen hoop-poles) have been discovered; nor any testimony received but of six pikes, that such preparations were actually made. The witnesses generally agree in one fact, that the attempt was to have taken place on Sunday night the 16th June,

differing a little as to the precise time; 12 o'clock appears to have been the hour.

From the various conflicting statements made during the trials, it is difficult to form a plausible That the first essay would be made with clubs against the State Arsenal is inferrible, from their being unprovided with arms, and the concurrence of several witnesses. But whether the attack would be made simultaneously by various detachments, or whether the whole, embodied at a particular spot would proceed to the accomplishment of their object, is very uncertain. Upon the whole it is manifest, that if any plan had been organized, it was never communicated by the principal conspirator to the leaders or the men, as they were wholly ignorant even of the places of renearly conspirator to the leaders or the men, as they were wholly ignorant even of the places of renearly conspirator to the leaders or the men, as they were wholly ignorant even of the places of renearly constituted by the principal constit cipal conspirator to the leaders or the men, as they were wholly ignorant even of the places of rendezvous, although within two days of the time appointed, and but one man arrested prior to the day fixed on for the attempt.

When we contrast the numbers engaged with the magnitude of the enterprize, the imputation

of egregious folly or madness is irresistable: and supposing the attempt to have been predicated on the probability, that partial success would augment their numbers, the utmost presumption on the probability, that partial success would augment their numbers, the utmost presumption would scarcely have hazarded the result. Servility long continued debases the mind and abstracts it from that energy of character, which is fitted to great exploits. It cannot be supposed, therefore, without a violation of the immutable laws of nature, that a transition from slavery and degradation to authority and power, could instantly occur. Great and general excitement may produce extensive and alarming effects; but the various passions which operate with powerful effect on this class of persons, impart a confident assurance of detection and defeat to every similar design. While the event is remote, they may listen with credulity to the artful tale of the instigator, and concur in its plausibility; but the approach of danger will invariably produce treachery, the concomitant of dastardly dispositions. In the fidelity and attachment of a numerous class of these persons, we have other sources of security and early information; from both of which it is reasonable to conclude, that in proportion to the number engaged, will be the certainty of detection; and that an extensive conspiracy cannot be matured in this State.

have entered with much reluctance on this detail, nor would it have been considered requisite, but to counteract the number of gross and idle reports, actively and extensive circulated, and producing general anxiety and alarm. And, although, their authors may have no evil design, and may really be under the delusion, it is easy to perceive what pernicious consequences may ensue from not applying the proper corrective. Every individual in the State is interested, whether in relation to his own property, or the reputation of the State, in giving no more importance to the transaction than it justly merits. The Legislature have wisely provided the means of efficient protection. If the citizens will faithfully perform the duty enjoined on them by the Patrol Laws, I fear not that we shall continue in the enjoyment of as much tranquillity and safety, as any State

in the Union.

I have the honor to be, Very respectfully, Sir. Your obedient servant.

Vesey Rebellion Trial, 1822 TRANSCRIPTION

Examination of Pompey a negro man belonging to M^r Bryants

Denmark Vesey has often spoken to me about the insurrection and endeavoured [sic] to persuade me to join them, he enquired of me if my master had not arms in his house and tried to persuade me to get them from him — the blacks stood in great fear of him and [illegible] so much so, that I always endeavoured [sic] to avoid him.

Examination of Edwin a Negro man belonging to M^r Paul

Charles belongs to Juge Drayton — he told me that Monday Gell and Denmark Vesey knew about the insurrection of the blacks — he said that William Paul in consequence of his having given testimony would run a great risk of his life if he went out. I heard every body, even the women say when several were apprehended that they wondered that Monday Gell and Denmark Vesey were not taken.

Examination of Frank a Negro man belonging to M^r Ferguson.

The first time I spoke with Monday Gell 'twas one night a Vesey's house, where I heard Vesey tell Monday, he must send some one round into the country to [illegible] the people down. Monday replied he had directed Jack to go up, and told him to tell the people to come down and join in the fight against the Whites, and to ascertain and inform him how many people he could get to agree — A few days after I met Vesey, Monday, and Jack in the street under M^r Duncans trees at night, where Jack stated, that he had been in the country round by Goose Creek and Dorchester and that he had spoken to 6,600 persons who had agreed to join. At Veseys the first time I spoke to Monday, he was going away early and Vesey asked him to stay: when Monday said he expected that night a meeting at this house to fix upon and mature the plan &c. and he could not stay. I afterwards conversed with Monday in his shop where he asked me if I had heard that Bennetts and Poyas' people were taken up, that 'twas a great pity — he said he had joined in the business — I told him to take care that he was not taken up. Whenever I talked with Vesey, he always spoke of Monday

[Page 2]

being his principal and active man in this business — I heard Jack say, he would pay no more wages, he was too busy in seeing about this insurrection, besides what would the Whites want with wages — they would soon be no more. Monday Gell said to Vesey, that if Jack had so many men, they had better wait no longer, but begin the business at once and others would join.

M^r James Ferguson who was present at Franks examination stated to the Court that the testimony of Frank was in substance what he had before told him.

Examination of Pharo — belonging to M^r Thompson

One evening I over heard two men in the street say that [illegible] Berry and Denmark Vesey were two principal men — Perault belong to M^r Strohecker said to me last Tuesday that the black people were not worth any thing, but that there was a French Band, which if they could get only 100 men to join with them would attack the work house and take their friends out. I once went to Monday Gells, who had told me he wanted to see me — this

Vesey Rebellion Trial, 1822 TRANSCRIPTION

was before Mr Pauls' William was taken up, I then met Charles Drayton and M^r Fergusons Frank frequents Mondays house — Monday said he wanted to say something particular to me, and Charles winked at him, when Monday stopped [illegible] — Charles asked me on friday the 14th June in the streets to lend him a horse next Sunday evening — I said I could not.

Examination of Patrick belonging to Miss Datty

I know Charles Drayton — about 5 months ago he met me in the street, when he stopped me, and asked me to join with him — I asked him in what — he said he want to make up a Company — I said what for, he said for some respectable known man coming here from abroad — I said I did not want death to take me yet and quit him.

Examination of Y* belonging to Colonel George W. Cross

Peter Poyas first spoke to me and asked me to join. I asked him to join what, the Church — he said no, have you not heard that the blacks are going to try to take the Country from the Whites — I asked him if he thought he had force enough to do it — he said yes aplenty.

*See next page —

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Vesey Rebellion Trial, 1822

Commation of Tempy a negre man belonging to elle Byant Denmark Very has often spoken to but about the insurrection and endiavoured to plesunde fine to join them, he enquired of me if my master had not arms in his house and treed to partiade me get them for him - the blacks stood in great fear of him Sande So much so, that Calways endeavoured to avoid thim. Ocamination of Carrier a negu man belonging to ell, Saul Charles belings to judge Dranfow he Hold and That Mone Yell and Deumank Very knew-about the insurrection of the Hucks he said that William Paul in consequence of his having owen listimony would run a creat risk of his life, if he went out-I cheard way body, even the women var when everal were appear shended that they wondered that Monday Vell (and Denmark Very were not taken Commation of Frank a neero man belonging to ett Ferouson The first time Ispoke with Monday Gell twas one night at Vesers house, where Theard Very till Monday, he must send some one round into the country to hong the brother down . Honday achieve he had directed cach to go up and told him to teto the people to come down (and join in the fiell- against the Whites, (and to ascartain (and inform think how many people he could get to agree - of for days after I met Very, Monday and Jack in the theet under ofto Duncans trees of might, where cack stated hat he had been in the country round by Loose Ereckxam Dorehetter and that he had stoken to 6,600 persons who had agreed to jain - elf lesys the wit time Ishoke to Monday, he was going away early (and Westy) asked him to stay; when ellorday said he expected they night a meeting at his house to his whore fand matin the plan He and he could not stay. Safterwards conversed with Monday in his Shop where he asked me it Shad heard that Bennetts can Joyus hothe were taken up, that twas a great puty - he said he had sained in the busines - I told him to take care that he was not take with Whenever Statked with Verry, he always spoke of Monday

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Vesey Rebellion Trial, 1822

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Description

The Agriculture Census began in 1850. Farmers and planters were asked information about the amount and value of their land and equipment, and what type of livestock and crops they possessed and produced. The holdings of these three prominent men demonstrate the kinds of crops grown in South Carolina during the 1850s, including rice, cotton, corn, and sweet potatoes, and the types of livestock raised, mainly cattle and hogs. The census records also demonstrate the different crops and livestock being grown throughout the state, with items like wheat and oats grown in the upstate, and hay and sheep more common in the lowcountry.

Citation

Drayton, J.G. No. 5, p. 331. In United States. Bureau of the Census. Original Agriculture, Industry, Social Statistics, and Mortality Schedules for South Carolina 1850. Schedule 4. Production of Agriculture in Charleston District, South Carolina. F 600204. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Fox, John. No. 13, p. 103. In United States. Bureau of the Census. Original Agriculture, Industry, Social Statistics, and Mortality Schedules for South Carolina 1850. Production of Agriculture in Lexington District, South Carolina. F 600204. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Gregg, John E. No. 33, p. 221-2. United States. Bureau of the Census. Original Agriculture, Industry, Social Statistics, and Mortality Schedules for South Carolina 1850. Schedule 4. Production of Agriculture in Marion District, South Carolina. F 600204. Laurens-York. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3-4.1: Compare the conditions of daily life for various classes of people in South Carolina, including the elite, the middle class, the lower class, the independent farmers, and the free and enslaved African Americans. (H,E)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.1: Compare the industrial North and the agricultural South prior to the Civil War, including the specific nature of the economy of each region, the geographic characteristics and boundaries of each region, and the basic way of life in each region. (G, E, H)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.1: Explain the importance of agriculture in antebellum South Carolina, including plantation life, slavery, and the impact of the cotton gin. (H, G, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.1: Compare the social and cultural characteristics of the North, the South, and the West during the antebellum period, including the lives of African Americans and social reform movements such as abolition and women's rights. (H, P, G)

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Nullification Barbecue, 1833

Description

Many public events were held in support of states' rights and the idea of nullifying the federal tariff. This article from the *Columbia Telescope* reports on a Barbecue held in Newberry in August of 1833 and outlines the toasts made at the event. Toasting political leaders and philosophies was a common public political expression in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. These toasts clearly show support for nullification, and cheer the state and its major political leaders, like John C. Calhoun, the current Governor Robert Y. Hayne, and former Governor John Hamilton Jr. The fourth toast also censures President Andrew Jackson, who supported the supremacy of the federal government.

Citation

"Communication for the Telescope: A Barbecue" and "Regular Toasts." *Columbia Telescope*. 24 September 1833. Newspapers on microfilm, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3-4.3: Explain the reasons for South Carolina's secession from the Union, including the abolitionist movement, states' rights, and the desire to defend South Carolina's way of life. (H,P,E)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.3: Explain how specific events and issues led to the Civil War, including the sectionalism fueled by issues of slavery in the territories, states' rights, the election of 1860, and secession. (H,G,E)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.2: Explain the impact of key events leading to South Carolina's secession from the Union, including the nullification crisis and John C. Calhoun, the Missouri Compromise, the Tariff of 1832, the Compromise of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska Act and subsequent armed conflict, the Dred Scott decision, the growth of the abolitionist movement, and the election of 1860. (H, P, G)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.2: Explain how the political events and issues that divided the nation led to civil war, including the compromises reached to maintain the balance of free and slave states, the successes and failures of the abolitionist movement, the conflicting views on states' rights and federal authority, the emergence of the Republican Party and its win in 1860, and the formation of the Confederate States of America. (H, P)

Nullification Barbecue, 1833

COMMUNICATION.

For the Telescope A BARBECUE.

Agrecably to previous arrangements, a large number of the citizens of Newberry met at Capt P. M. Eigner's spring, on the 9th August, to partake of a barbecue given by Capt Turmipseed's new corps of Voluntoors and the cit-

izens conjointly.

The dinner which was prepared and served up with neatness by Wm. Gillam Eagr. was placed on the table at 1 past 11 celeek, when the cannon was fired as a signal for all to step the cannon was fired as a signal for all to step. forward and partake of the profusion set before them. As soon as the cloth was removed the following toasts were read and each followed by a salute.

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. The State Rights party of South Carolina: like the Christian church, its triumph depends upon the purity of its members: let none he trusted who claims to belong, to it, yet re-

fuses to practice its theories!

2. South Carolina , the friend of liberty and champion of State Rights, she has proudly sustained herself in despite of all the contemptable opposition of faction and federalism she has reduced the Taruff, preserved the Union, and proved to the world that Nullification is the

rightful remedy.
3. Honorables Calhoun, Hayne, Hamilton, Miller and McDuffie; 5 Southern beacons who have rendered their names illustrious by their patriotic devotion in the cause of liberty; may they continue to be the watchful guardians of the righte of the people, and posterity will award to them the plaudit of well done good

and faithful servants.

4. Gen. Andrew Jackson: A pure specimen of absurd inconsistentcy and weakness, who is by the minions around him, led by the mose astray from the path of duty, but who in one instance was by a chivalric son pulled back

by the same, to a sense of his wrong.

5. Our country, Vast in extent, rich in diversified natural advantages, blest with the happiest political institutions: the vigilant maintainance of those institutions in their purity and vigor, is the tenure by which alone we may hope as people to hold and enjoy liberty, happiness, and the lavour of heaven.

6. The one gun battery of nullification. So long a it is manned by the gallant sons of South Carolina, and well rammed by such men as Calhoun, Hayne, Hamilton, and McDuffic, it will continue as it has done to sweep-down the unconstitutional ramparts of tyranny and usurpation, and substitute in their room equal rights

justice and liberty

7. James Hamilton Jr: In aiding the cause of liberty in his own beloved State, he has proved himself second to none, we bail him as justly meriting every honor that a grateful people can bestow on him.

8. Governor Hayne. Both at home and in the Senate in Congress, he has EMPHATICALLY proved himself to be his country's man, may the gratitude of an enlighened people and. a peaceful cors ience, be his reward.

By the Committee of invitations Judge Job Johnston. He asserts and maintains the true

doctrines of Republicanium.



Benjamin F. Perry Speech, 1860

Description

Benjamin F. Perry was a Unionist who spoke out against secession. This speech, especially the second column, from the 1860 National Convention in Charleston, outlines his defense of the Union and of slavery. Perry believed that secession would hurt slavery more than the federal government. Despite Perry's remarks, the National Democratic Party would split at the 1860 Convention, in a move that helped elect Republican Abraham Lincoln. The printing of this speech demonstrates an audience for Perry's views beyond the political convention. After the Civil War, Perry would be elected as the first governor in South Carolina's Reconstruction.

Citation

Speech of B.F. Perry of South Carolina in the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, S.C., <1860>. South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3-4.3: Explain the reasons for South Carolina's secession from the Union, including the abolitionist movement, states' rights, and the desire to defend South Carolina's way of life. (H, P, E)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.3: Explain how specific events and issues led to the Civil War, including the sectionalism fueled by issues of slavery in the territories, states' rights, the election of 1860, and secession. (H, G, E)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.4: Compare the attitudes of the unionists, cooperationists, and secessionists in South Carolina and summarize the reasons that the members of the South Carolina secession convention in 1860 voted unanimously to secede from the Union, including concerns about states' rights and fears about abolition. (H, P, G, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.2: Explain how the political events and issues that divided the nation led to civil war, including the compromises reached to maintain the balance of free and slave states, the successes and failures of the abolitionist movement, the conflicting views on states' rights and federal authority, the emergence of the Republican Party and its win in 1860, and the formation of the Confederate States of America. (H, P)

Benjamin F. Perry Speech, 1860

SPEECH OF B. F. PERRY,

OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

IN THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION AT CH RESTON, S. C.

IN THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION AT GH (RLESTON, S. C.

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Ordinance of Secession, 1860

Description

After Abraham Lincoln was elected President in early November 1860, the South Carolina State Legislature called for elections to a state convention to be held on December 17th. On December 20th, all 169 delegates to the convention voted for secession against Republican Presidential leadership on matters of race, economics, and politics. This document states that South Carolina has repealed the Constitution and its amendments and disassociated itself from the United States of America. The convention would also draft the "Declaration of Immediate Causes" explaining exactly why the state seceded, and "The Address to the People of South Carolina . . ." outlining the erosion of the Union and calling for a confederacy of southern states.

Citation

Constitutional Convention (1860-1862). Ordinance of Secession, 1860. Constitutional and Organic Papers. S 131053. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3.4-4: Outline the course of the Civil War and South Carolina's role in significant events, including the Secession Convention, the firing on Fort Sumter, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through South Carolina. (H, G)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.3: Explain how specific events and issues led to the Civil War, including the sectionalism fueled by issues of slavery in the territories, states' rights, the election of 1860, and secession. (H,G,E)

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Indicator 8-3.4: Compare the attitudes of the unionists, cooperationists, and secessionists in South Carolina and summarize the reasons that the members of the South Carolina secession convention in 1860 voted unanimously to secede from the Union, including concerns about states' rights and fears about abolition. (H, P, G, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.2: Explain how the political events and issues that divided the nation led to civil war, including the compromises reached to maintain the balance of free and slave states, the successes and failures of the abolitionist movement, the conflicting views on states' rights and federal authority, the emergence of the Republican Party and its win in 1860, and the formation of the Confederate States of America. (H, P)

Ordinance of Secession, 1860 TRANSCRIPTION

The State of South Carolina

At a Convention of the People of the State of South Carolina, begun and holden at Columbia on the Seventeenth day of December in the year or our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty and thence continued by adjournment to Charleston, and there by divers adjournments to the Twentieth day of December in the same year —

An Ordinance To dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other States united with her under the compact entitled "The Constitution of the United States of America."

We, the People of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled do declare and ordain, and it is herby declared and ordained, That the Ordinance adopted by us in Convention, on the twenty-third day of May in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and eight eight, whereby the Constitution of the United State of America was ratified, and also all Acts and parts of Acts of the General Assembly of this State, ratifying amendment of the said Constitution, are here by repealed; and that the union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States, under the name of "The United States of America," is hereby dissolved.

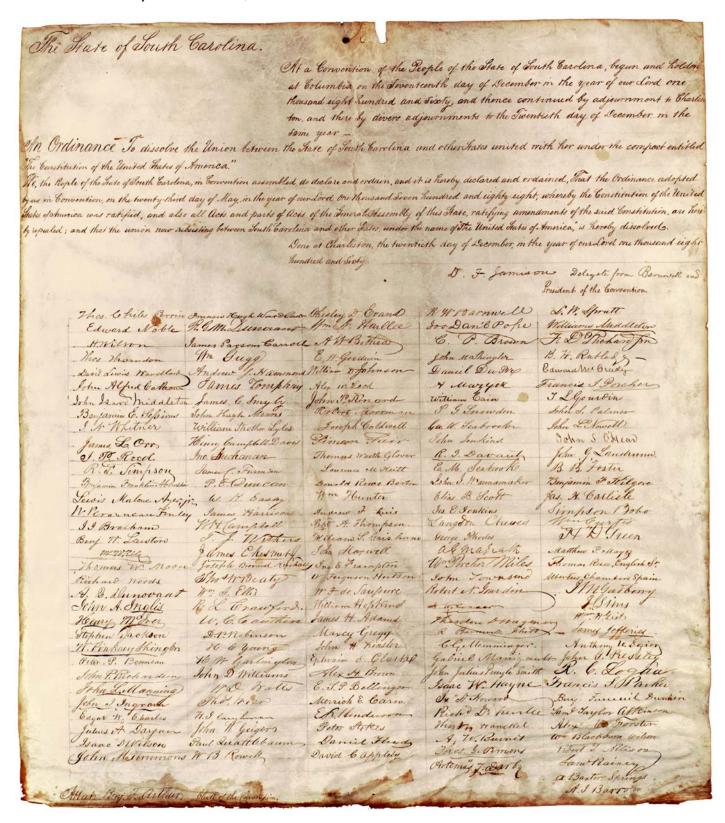
Done at Charleston, the twentieth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty

> [signed] D.F. Jamison Delegate from Barnwell and President of the Convention

[signatures of delegates to the convention]

Attest: Benj. J. Arthur, Clerk of the Convention

Ordinance of Secession, 1860



9

President James Buchanan Letters, 1861

Description

The South Carolina Constitutional Convention, which authored the Ordinance of Secession and the Declaration of Immediate Causes, formed a commission, consisting of R.W. Barnwell, J.H. Adams, and James L. Orr, to negotiate with President James Buchanan. Two days before the first letter, Major Robert Anderson, the commanding officer in Charleston, moved federal troops from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter. In response, the state militia seized all federal property in Charleston, except for Fort Sumter.

In the first letter, the Commissioners wrote to President Buchanan to give him a copy of the Ordinance of Secession and ask him to withdraw federal troops from Charleston harbor. In the next, President Buchanan replies by refusing to remove the troops. He explains to the South Carolina Commissioners his inability under the U.S. Constitution to resolve any disagreements with Congress, but states his intention of upholding his constitutional duty to protect the property of the United States, including Fort Sumter, if it is attacked. Although the attack on Fort Sumter would not occur for four more months, this exchange between the Commissioners and President Buchanan illustrates the significance of federal troops in Charleston in the initiation of armed combat between the two sides.

Citation

Letter of Commissioners to President Buchanan, December 28, 1861, Journal of the Convention of the People of South Carolina, Held in 1860-61. Together with the Reports, Resolutions, &c. Charleston, p. 354-355: Evans & Cogswell, Printers to the Convention. No. 3 Broad and 103 East Bay Streets. 1861. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Letter of President Buchanan to the Washington Commissioners, December 30, 1861, Journal of the Convention of the People of South Carolina, Held in 1860-61. Together with the Reports, Resolutions, &c. Charleston, p. 356-362: Evans & Cogswell, Printers to the Convention. No. 3 Broad and 103 East Bay Streets. 1861. South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3.4-4: Outline the course of the Civil War and South Carolina's role in significant events, including the Secession Convention, the firing on Fort Sumter, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through South Carolina. (H, G)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.3: Explain how specific events and issues led to the Civil War, including the sectionalism fueled by issues of slavery in the territories, states' rights, the election of 1860, and secession. (H,G,E)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the American Civil War — its causes and effects and the major events that occurred during that time.

Indicator 8-3.4: Compare the attitudes of the unionists, cooperationists, and secessionists in South Carolina and summarize the reasons that the members of the South Carolina secession convention in 1860 voted unanimously to secede from the Union, including concerns about states' rights and fears about abolition. (H, P, G, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.2: Explain how the political events and issues that divided the nation led to civil war, including the compromises reached to maintain the balance of free and slave states, the successes and failures of the abolitionist movement, the conflicting views on states' rights and federal authority, the emergence of the Republican Party and its win in 1860, and the formation of the Confederate States of America. (H, P)

President James Buchanan Letters, 1861 TRANSCRIPTION

Washington, 28th December, 1860.

Sir: We have the honor to transmit to you a copy of the full powers from the Convention of the People of South Carolina, under which we are "authorized and empowered to treat with the Government of the United States for the delivery of the forts, magazines, light-houses and other real estate, with their appurtenances, within the limits of South Carolina, and also for an apportionment of the public debt, and for a division of all other property held by the Government of the United States as agent of the confederated States, of which South Carolina was recently a member; and generally to negotiate as to all other measures and arrangements proper to be made and adopted in the existing relation of the parties, and for the continuance of peace and amity between this commonwealth and the Government at Washington.

In the execution of this trust, it is our duty to furnish you, as we do now, with an official copy of the Ordinance of Secession, by which the State of South Carolina has resumed the powers she delegated to the Government of the United States and has declared her perfect sovereignty and independence.

It would also have been our duty to have informed you that we were ready to negotiate with you upon all such questions as are necessarily raised by the adoption of this ordinance, and that we were prepared to enter upon this negotiation with the earnest desire to avoid all unnecessary and hostile collision, and so to inaugurate our new relations as to secure mutual respect, general advantage and a future of good will and harmony beneficial to all the parties concerned.

But the events of the last twenty-four hours render such an assurance impossible. We came here the representatives of an authority which could, at any time within the past sixty days, have taken possession of the forts in Charleston harbor, but which, upon pledges given in a manner that, we cannot doubt, determined to trust to your honor rather than to its own power. Since our arrival here an officer of the United States, acting, as we are assured, not only without but against your orders, has dismantled one fort and occupied another, thus altering, to a most important extent, the condition of affairs under which we

Until these circumstances are explained in a manner which relieves us of all doubt as to the spirit in which these negotiations shall be conducted, we are forced to suspend all discussion as to any arrangements by which our mutual interests might be amicably adjusted.

And, in conclusion, we would urge upon you the immediate withdrawal of the troops from the harbor of Charleston. Under present circumstances, they are a standing menace which renders negotiation impossible, and. As our recent experience shews, threatens speedily to bring to a bloody issue questions which ought to be settled with temperance and judgment.

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We have the honor, Sir, to be,
      Very respectfully,
            Your obedient servants,
                         R.W. Barnwell,
                         J.H. Adams,
                         James L. Orr,
                                Commissioners.
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To the President of the Untied States

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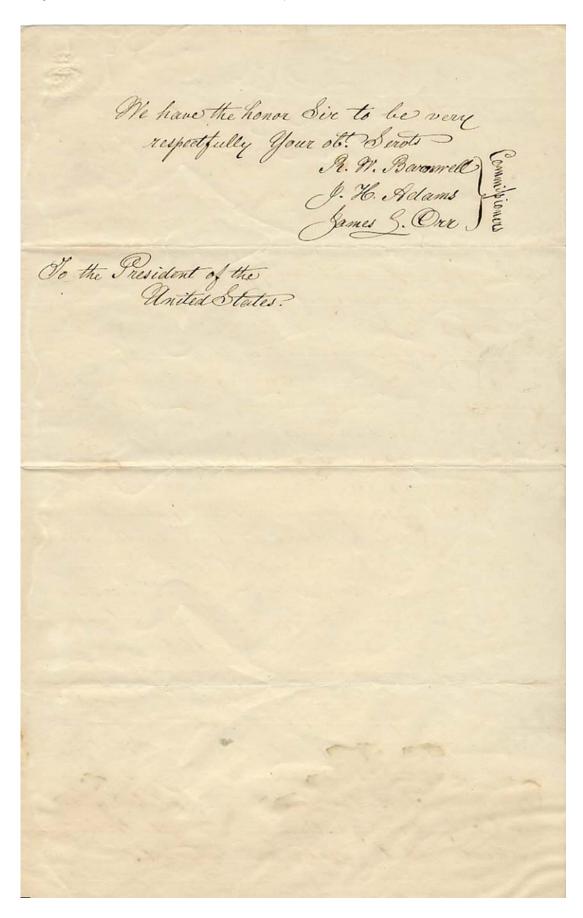
President James Buchanan Letters, 1861

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President James Buchanan Letters, 1861

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President James Buchanan Letters, 1861



President James Buchanan Letters, 1861 TRANSCRIPTION

Washington City, 30th December, 1860.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to receive your communication of 28th instant, together with a copy of your "full powers from the Convention of the People of South Carolina," authorizing you to treat with the Government of the United States on various important subjects therein mentioned, and also a copy of the Ordinance bearing date on the 20th instant, declaring that "the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States under the name of 'the United States of America,' is hereby dissolved."

In answer to this communication, I have to say, that my position as President of the United States was clearly defined in the message to Congress of the 3d. instant. In that I stated that, "apart from the execution of the laws, so far as this may be practicable, the Executive has no authority to decide what shall be the relations between the Federal Government and South Carolina. He has been invested with no such discretion. He possesses no power to change the relations heretofore existing between them, much less to acknowledge the independence of that State. This would be to invest a mere executive officer with the power of recognizing the dissolution of the Confederacy among our thirty-three sovereign States. It bears no resemblance to the recognition of a foreign *de facto* government — involving no such responsibility. It is, therefore, my duty to submit to Congress the whole question, in all its bearings."

Such is my opinion still. I could, therefore, meet you only as private gentlemen of the highest character, and was entirely willing to communicate to Congress any proposition you might have to make to that body upon the subject. Of this you were well aware. It was my earnest desire, that such a disposition might be made of the whole subject by Congress, who alone possess the power, as to prevent the inauguration of a civil war between the parties in regard to the possession of the Federal Forts in the harbor of Charleston; and I therefore deeply regret, that, in your opinion, "the events of the last twenty-four hours render this impossible." In conclusion, you urge upon me "the immediate withdrawal of the troops from the harbor of Charleston," stating that, "under present circumstances, they are a standing menace which renders negotiation impossible, and, as our recent experience shows, threatens speedily to bring to a bloody issue, questions which ought to be settled with temperance and judgment."

The reason for this change in your position is, that since your arrival in Washington, "an officer of the United States, acting as we (you) are assured, not only without, but against your (my) orders, has dismantled one fort and occupied another, thus altering, to a most important extent, the condition of affairs under which we (you) came." You also allege that you came here "the representatives of an authority which could, at any time, within the past sixty days have taken possession of the forts in Charleston harbor, but which, upon pledges given in a manner that we (you) cannot doubt, determined to trust your (my) honor rather than to its own power."

This brings me to a consideration of the nature of those alleged pledges, and in what manner they have been observed. In my message of the third of December last, I stated, in regard to the property of the United States in South Carolina, that it "has been purchased for a fair equivalent 'by consent of the Legislature of the State,' 'for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals,' &c., and over these the authority 'to exercise exclusive legislation' has been expressly granted by the Constitution to Congress. It is not believed that any attempt will be made to expel the Untied States from its property by force; but if in this I should

President James Buchanan Letters, 1861 TRANSCRIPTION

prove to be mistaken, the officer in command of the forts has received orders to act strictly on the defensive. In such contingency, the responsibility for consequences would rightfully rest upon the heads of the assailants." This being the condition of the parties, on Saturday, 8th December, four of the representatives from South Carolina called on me and requested an interview. We had an earnest conversation on the subject of these forts, and the best means of preventing a collision between the parties for the purpose of sparing the effusion of blood. I put in writing what they said to me verbally. They did so accordingly, and on Monday morning, the 10th instant, three of them presented to me a paper signed by all the representatives from South Carolina, with a single exception, of which the following is a copy:

To his Excellency, James Buchanan,
President of the United States:

In compliance with our statement to you yesterday, we now express to you our strong convictions that neither the constituted authorities, nor any body of the people of the State of South Carolina, will either attack or molest the United States forts, in the harbor of Charleston, previously to the action of the Convention, and we hope and believe, not until an offer has been made, through an accredited representative, to negotiate for an amicable arrangement of all matters between the State and the Federal Government, provided that no reinforcements shall be sent into those forts, and their relative military status shall remain as at present.

JNO. McQueen, WM. Porcher Miles, M.L. Bonham, W.W. Poyce, Lawrence M. Keitt.

Washington, 9th Dec., 1860.

And here I must, in justice to myself, remark, that at the time the paper was presented to me, I objected to the word "provided," as it might be construed into an agreement, on my part, which I never would make. They said that nothing was farther from their intention — they did not so understand it, and I should not so consider it. It is evident they could enter into no reciprocal agreement with me on the subject. They did not profess to have authority to do this, and were acting in their individual character. I considered it as nothing more, in effect, than the promise of highly honorable gentlemen to exert their influence for the purpose expressed. The event has proven that they have faithfully kept this promise, although I have never since received a line from any of them, or from any member of the Convention, on the subject. It is well known that it was my determination, and this I freely expressed, not to reinforce the forts in the harbor, and thus produce a collision, until they had been actually attacked, or until I had certain evidence that they were about to be attacked. This paper I received most cordially, and considered it as a happy omen that peace might still be preserved, and that time might thus be gained for reflection. This is the whole foundation for the alleged pledge.

But I acted in the same manner I would have done had I entered into a positive and formal agreement with parties capable of contracting, although such an agreement would have been, on my part, from the nature of official duties, impossible.

President James Buchanan Letters, 1861 TRANSCRIPTION

The world knows that I have never sent any reinforcements to the forts in Charleston harbor, and I have certainly never authorized any change to be made "in their relative military status."

Bearing upon this subject, I refer you to an order issued by the Secretary of War, on the 11th inst., to Major Anderson, but not brought to my notice until the 21st instant. It is as follows:

"Memorandum of verbal instructions to Major Anderson, 1st Artillery, Commanding Fort Moultrie, S.C.

You are aware of the great anxiety of the Secretary of War that a collision of the troops with the people of this State shall be avoided, and of his studied determination to pursue a course with reference to the military force and forts in this harbor, which shall guard against such a collision. He has, therefore, carefully abstained from increasing the force at this point, or taking any measures which might add to the present excited state of the public mind, or which would throw any doubt on the confidence he feels that South Carolina will not attempt by violence to obtain possession of the public works, or interfere with their occupancy. But as the counsel and acts of rash and impulsive persons may possibly disappoint these expectations of the Government, he deems it proper that you should be prepared with instructions to meet so unhappy a contingency. He has, therefore, directed me, verbally, to give you such instructions.

You are carefully to avoid every act which would needlessly tend to provoke aggression; and, for that reason, you are not, without evident and imminent necessity, to take up any position which could be construed into the assumption of a hostile attitude; but you are to hold possession of the forts in this harbor, and, if attacked, you are to defend yourself to the last extremity. The smallness of your force will not permit you, perhaps, to occupy more than one of the three forts; but an attack on, or attempt to take possession of either of them, will be regarded as an act of hostility, and you may then put your command into either of them which you may deem most proper, to increase its power of resistance. You are also authorized to take similar defensive steps whenever you have tangible evidence of a design to proceed to a hostile act.

D.P. Butler, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Fort Moultrie, S.C., Dec.11, 1860.

This is in conformity to my instructions to Major Buell.

John B. Floyd, Secretary of War.

These were the last instructions transmitted to Major Anderson before his removal to Fort Sumter, with a single exception in regard to a particular which does not, in any degree, affect the present situation. Under these circumstances, it is clear that Major Anderson acted upon his own responsibility, and without authority, unless, indeed, he had "tangible evidence of a design to proceed to a hostile act," on the part of the authorities of South Carolina, which has not yet been alleged. Still, he is a brave and honorable officer; and justice requires that he should not be condemned without a fait hearing,

Be this as it may, when I learned that Major Anderson had left Fort Moultrie, and proceeded to Fort Sumter, my first promptings were to command him to return to his former position, and there to await the contingencies presented in his instructions. This could only have been done, with any degree of safety to the command, by concurrence of

9 The Road to Disunton

President James Buchanan Letters, 1861 TRANSCRIPTION

the South Carolina authorities. But, before any steps could possibly have been taken in this direction, we received information, dated on the 28th instant, that "the Palmetto flag floated out to the breeze at Castle Pinckney, and a large military force went over last night (the 27th) to Fort Moultrie." Thus the authorities of South Carolina, without waiting or asking for any explanation, and doubtless believing, as you have expressed it, that the officer had acted not only without, but against my orders, on the very next day after the night when the removal was made, seized, by a military force, two of the three federal forts in the harbor of Charleston, and have covered them under their own flag, instead of that of the United States. At this gloomy period of our history, startling events succeed each other rapidly. On the very day (the 27th instant) that possession of these two forts was taken, the Palmetto flag was raised over the Federal Custom House and Post-office in Charleston; and, on the same day, every officer of the Customs — Collector, Naval Officers, Surveyor and Appraisers — resigned their offices. And this, although it was well known, from the language of my message, that, as an executive officer, I felt myself bound to collect the revenue at the port of Charleston under existing laws. In the harbor of Charleston, we now find three forts confronting each other, over all of which the federal flag floated only four days ago; but now, over two of them, this flag has been supplanted, and the Palmetto flag has been substituted in its stead. It is, under all these circumstances, that I am urged immediately to withdraw the troops from the harbor of Charleston, and am informed that without this, negotiation is impossible. This I cannot do; this I will not do. Such an idea was never thought of by me in any possible contingency. No allusion to it had ever been made in any communication between myself and any human being. But the inference is, that I am bound to withdraw the troops from the only fort remaining in the possession of the United States in the harbor of Charleston, because the officer then in command of all the forts thought proper, without instructions, to change possession from one of them to another. I cannot admit the justice of any such inference.

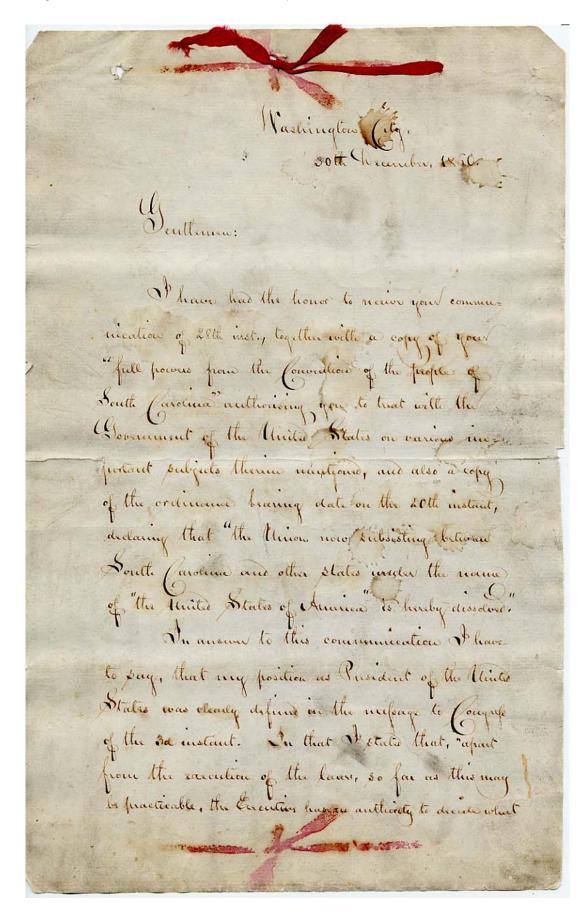
At this point of writing, I have received information, by telegram, from Captain Humphreys, in command of the Arsenal at Charleston, "that it has to-day (Sunday, the 30th) been taken by force of arms." It is estimated that the munitions of war belonging to the United States in this Arsenal are worth half a million of dollars.

Comment is needless. After this information, I have only to add, that, whilst it is my duty to defend Fort Sumter, as a portion of the public property of the United States against hostile attacks from whatever quarter they may come, I do not perceive how such a defence can be construed into a menace against the City of Charleston.

With great personal regard, I remain Yours, very respectfully, James Buchanan.

To Honorable

Robert W. Barnwell, James H. Adams, James L. Orr.



shall be the ulations between the Federal Government and South Carolina. He has been invested with no such discretion. To possess no from to cleange the relatrous herstofore existing between them, much less to acknow. ledge the independence of that state. This would be to most a more recentive officer with the power of re. cognising the defedution of the Confederacy among our thinty three poversign states. It bears no resemblance to the recogs rition of a foreign de facts government involving no puels responsibility. Any attempt to do this would, on his part, be a naked act of usurpation. It is, therefore, my duty to submit to Conques the whole question in all its brangs. Duch is my opinion still. I could therefore was entirely willing to communicate to Congress any proposition you might how to make to that body whom the subject. If this you were well aware. It was my samest desire that puch a disposition night be made of the whole subject by Congress, who alone properly the prower,

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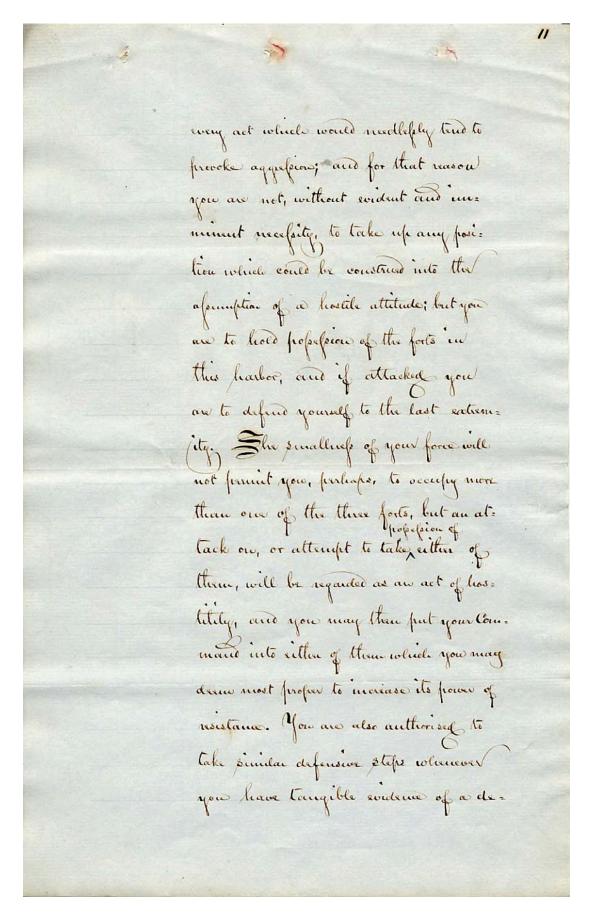
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President James Buchanan Letters, 1861

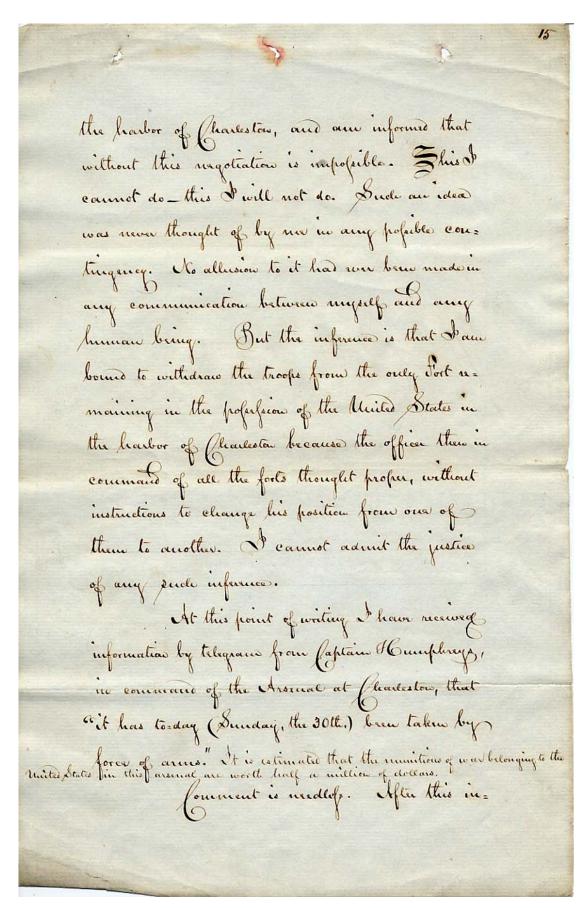
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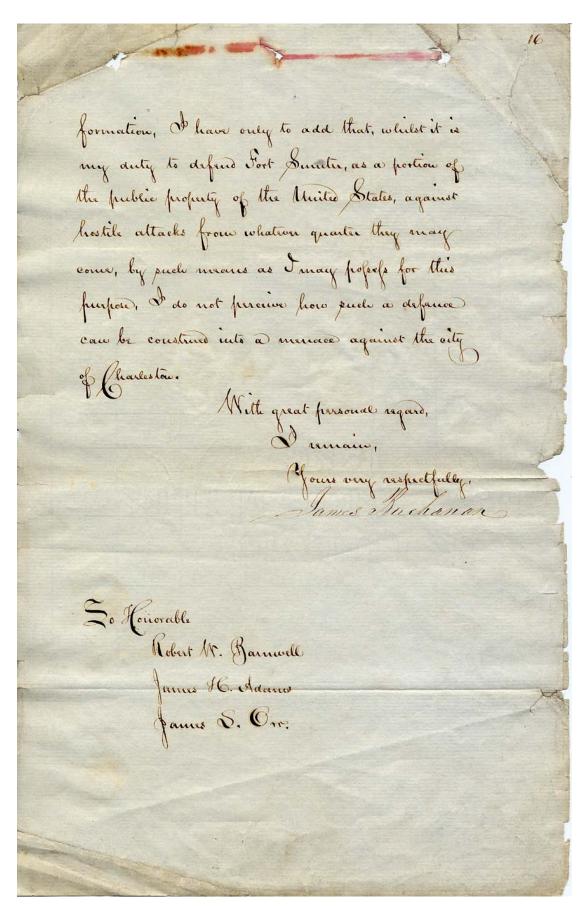
12 sign to proceed to a hostile act. Th. P. Bultu, Afot Adjt Doug Fort Moultie, S. C. Dec. 11.1860. This is in conformity to my instructions to Major Dull. John D. Hoyd, Decretary of War. Show were the last instructions transmitted to Ma: for Auderson before his removal to Fort Sunter, with a single exception in regard to a particular which does not in any degree affect the present questions. Under these circumstances, it is clear that Major Anderson acted upon his own responsibility and without authority, unless, moder, he has "tangeble evidence of a design to proceed to a hostile act on the part of the authorities of South Carolina, which has not yet been alleged. Dtill he is a brain and honorable officer - and justice requires that he should not be condemned without a fair hear;

13 this as it may, when I harned that Major Anderson had left Fort Moultin and proceeded to Fort Suntar, my first promptings were to command him to rature to his former positrou, and there to await the contingencies presented in his instructions. This could only how been done with any degree of rafity to the command by the concurrence of the South farolina authorities. But before any steps could proferbly have been taken in this directions, we received information, dated on the 28th instant, that "the Palmetto flag floated out to the bruze at Castle Sinckney, and a large military force went over last night (the light) to Fort Moultie. Thus the authorities of South Concluse, without waiting or asking for any refilamation, on the very mat day after the night when the unoval was made, trops, by a military force, two of the three Federal Forts in the harbor of Charleston, and have covered them under

then own flag instead of that of the United States. At this gloomy period of our history startling &= vents succeed each other rapidly. On the very day, the 27th instant, that possession of these too forts was taken, the Palmette flag was raised over the Tecleral Justom Touse and Postoffice in Charles, tou; and on the same day every office of the Custome - Collector, Naval Officer, Durveyor and Appraises - resigned their offices. And this al. though it was well known, from the language of my muleage, that as aw Eacution Officer, I felt impely bound to collect the revenue at the port of Charleston under the recenting laws. In the harbor of Charleston we now find three forts confronting each other, over all of which the fed. eral flag floated only four days ago; but now, over two of them this flag has been suppleanted and the Valuette flag has been substituted in its stead. It is under all these circumstances that I am unged immediately to withdraw the troops from



President James Buchanan Letters, 1861



Bombardment of Fort Sumter, 1861

Description

This article from the *Charleston Mercury* outlines the bombing of Fort Sumter by Confederate troops. The Federal army stationed at Fort Sumter was out of supplies. President Lincoln had ordered the re-supply of the fort and sent in ships to do so. The Confederates decided not to allow this re-supply and opened fire on the fort on April 12, 1861, in the first battle of the Civil War. After 34 hours of battle, Major Robert Anderson, commander of the Federal troops, surrendered the fort and withdrew to New York. Confederate troops would occupy Fort Sumter until 1865, when General William T. Sherman's march through the state cut supply lines to the fort.

Citation

"Bombardment of Fort Sumter!" *Charleston Mercury*. 13 April 1861. Newspapers on microfilm, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3.4-4: Outline the course of the Civil War and South Carolina's role in significant events, including the Secession Convention, the firing on Fort Sumter, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through South Carolina. (H, G)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.4: Summarize significant key battles, strategies, and turning points of the Civil War — including the battles of Fort Sumter and Gettysburg, the Emancipation Proclamation, the significance of the Gettysburg Address, and the surrender at Appomattox — and the role of African Americans in the War. (H, G, E)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and events leading to, and the course of, the American Civil War.

Indicator 8-3.5: Compare the military strategies of the North and South with regard to specific events and geographic locations in South Carolina, including the capture of Port Royal, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through the state. (H, P, G)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.3: Outline the course and outcome of the Civil War, including the role of African American military units; the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation; and the geographic, political, and economic factors involved in the defeat of the Confederacy. (H, G, E, P)

Bombardment of Fort Sumter, 1861

BOMBARDMENT SUMTER! FORT Splendid Pyrotechnic Exhibition. FORT MOULTRIE IMPREGNABLE. THE FLOATING BATTERY Stevens' Battery a Success, "Nobody Hurt" on Gur Side.

As may have been anticipated from our notice of the military movements in our city yesterday, the bombardment of Fort Sumter, so long and anxiously expected, has at length become a fact accomplished. The re-tless activity of the night before was gradually worn down, the citizens who had thronged the battery through the night, anxious and weary, had sought their homes, the Mounted Guard which had kept watch and ward over the city, with the first grey streak of morning were preparing to retire, when two guns in quick succession from Fort Johnson announced

ETC.,

the opening of the drama. Upon that signal, the circle of batteries with which the grim fortress of Fort Sumter is becaguered opened fire. The outline of this great volcanic crater was illuminated with a line of twinkling lights; the clustering shells illuminated the sky above it; the balls clattered thick as hail upon its sides; our citizens, aroused to a forgetfulness of their fatigue through many weary hours, rushed again to the points of observation; and so, at the break of day, amidst the bursting of bombs. and the roaring of ordnance, and before theusands of spectators, whose homes, and liberties, and lives were at stake, was enacted this first great scene in the opening drama of what, it is presumed, will be a most momentous military act It may be a drama of but a single act. The madness which inspires it may depart with this single paroxysm. It is certain that the people of the North have rankling at their hearts no sense of wrong to be avenged; and exhibiting to those who expect power to reconstruct the shattered Union, its atter inadequacy to accomplish a single step in that direction, the Administration of the old Government may abandon at once and forever its vain and visionary hope of foreible control over the Confederate States. But it may not be so; they may persist still longer in assertions of their power. and if so, they will arouse an Independent spirit in the South, which will exact a merciless and

fearful retribution. But to return to our report. The act which we have undertaken to record was so unique as might be supposed there were few incidents to mark it, we have presented the reports as they successively arrived from the different batteries, and which when placed on our bulletlu board, were received with the most cager interest by the mass of anxious friends who at every instant of the day came crowding to our office.

There were several circumstances, however, de veloped by the day's experience which it is im portant to notice

It affords us infinite pleasure to record that Fort Moultrie has fully sustained the protige of its glorious name. It fired very nearly gun for gun with Fort Sumter. We counted the guns from eleven to twelve o'clock, and found them to be 42 to 46, while the advantage was unquestionably upon the side of Fort Moultrie. In that fort not a gun was dismounted, not a wound received, not the slightest permanent injury sus tained by any of its defences, while every ball from Fort Moultrie left its mark upon Fort Sumter. Many of its shells were dropped into that fort, and Lieut. Joun Mirchel, the worthy son of that patriot sire, who has so nobly vindicated the cause of the South, has the honor of dismounting two of its parapet guns by a single shot from one of the Columbiads, which at the time he had the office of directing.

The famous iron batteries -the one at Cumings' Point-named for Mr. C. H. STEVENS, the inventar, and the celebrated Floating Battery, constructed under the direction of Capt. HAMILTON, have fully vindicated the correctness of their conception. Shot after shot fell upon them and glanced harmless away, while from their favorable position their shots fell with effect upon Fort Sumter, and the south-east pancopee, under the fire of the STEVENS' battery, at nightfall, if not actually breached, was badly damaged. At this battery the honor of firing the first gun was accorded to the venerable EDMUND RUFFIN, of Virginia, who marched to the rendezvous at the sound of the alarm on Monday night, and who, when asked by some person who did not know him, to what company be belonged, replied, " to that in which there is a vacancy,"

It were vain to attempt an exhibition of the enthusiasm and fearless intrepidity of our citizens in every department of this eventful day. Boats passed from post to post without the slightest hesitation under the guns of Fort Sumter, and with high and low, old and young, rich and poor, in uniform or without, the common wish and constant effort was to reach the posts of action; and amid a bombardment resisted with the most consummate skill and perseverance, and with the most efficient appliances of military art and science, it is a most remarkable circumstance, and one which exhibits the infinite goodgoodness of an overruling Providence, that, so far as we have been able to learn from the most careful inquiry, not the slightest injury has been sustained by the defenders of their country.

It may be added, as an incident that contributed no little interest to the action of the day, that from early in the forenoon three vessels of war, two of them supposed to be the Hacrist Law and Painter, lay just beyond the bar, inactive spectator- of the contest. Whether they will attempt to enter during the night and encounter the batteries on either side that line the shore, is yet to be determined; if so we will present the records of a bloody issue in our next.

Fort Sumter did not return the fire of our batteries for over two hours, and ceased firing at seven o'clock, p. m., though our men continued to the hour of our going to press.

Annexed are the reports above referred to, which appeared on our Bulletin.

10 The Civil War and Reconstruction

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862

Description

James and Alexander Campbell were brothers on a Scottish family that immigrated to the United States in the 1850s. Alexander settled in New York City with most of the family, including two sons named James and Matthew; James went on to Charleston. Both achieved a degree of success in becoming respectable members of their communities. During the sectional crisis that led to the Civil War, each brother took the viewpoint of his adopted section of the United States. During the war, the two brothers fought on opposite sides during the Battle of Secessionville, which was the first major attempt by federal troops to regain Charleston. They were within yards of each other, but were unaware of that fact until near the end of the battle. These three letters were written right after the battle, and comment upon what occurred at the battle and how they still interact with each other, despite being on opposing sides of the war. The experience of the Campbell brothers illustrates the many families and friends that were split by the Civil War. In a sense, they represent the two sections of the United States that split apart. Furthermore, their letters reveal details about soldiers' lives.

Citation

Campbell Family Papers, 1860-1886. P 900150. South Carolina Department Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicators 3-4.5: Summarize the effects of the Civil War on the daily lives of people of different classes in South Carolina, including the lack of food, clothing, and living essentials and the continuing racial tensions. (H, E)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.4: Summarize significant key battles, strategies, and turning points of the Civil War — including the battles of Fort Sumter and Gettysburg, the Emancipation Proclamation, the significance of the Gettysburg Address, and the surrender at Appomattox — and the role of African Americans in the War. (H, G, E)

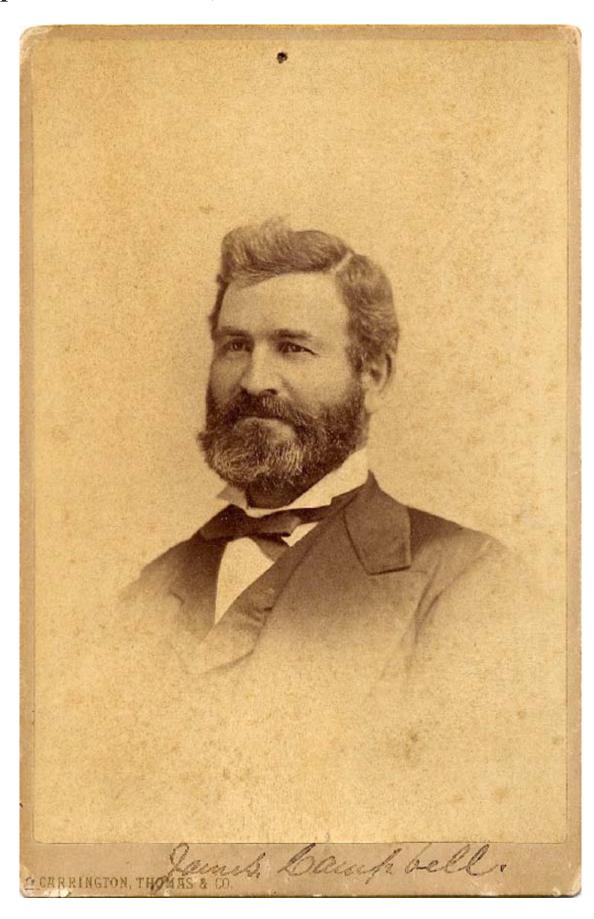
Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and events leading to, and the course of, the American Civil War.

Indicator 8-3.6: Compare the effects of the Civil War on daily life in South Carolina, including the experiences of plantation owners, women, Confederate and Union soldiers, African Americans, and children. (H, E)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.3: Outline the course and outcome of the Civil War, including the role of African American military units; the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation; and the geographic, political, and economic factors involved in the defeat of the Confederacy. (H, G, E, P)

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862



10> The Civil War and Reconstruction

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862 TRANSCRIPTION

James Island June 1862

Dear Brother

I was astonished to hear from the prisoners that you was colour Bearer of the Regmt that assalted the Battrey at this point the other day. When I first heard it I looked over the field for you where I met one of the wounded of your Regt and he told me that he believed you was safe. I was in the Brest work during the whole engagement doing my Best to Beat you but I hope that you and I will never again meet face to face Bitter enemies in the Battle field. But if such should be the case You have but to discharge your deauty to Your caus for I can assure you I will strive to discharge my deauty to my country & my cause.

In the late Battle the killed on your side was verry heavy in proportion to the wounded and for the forses engaged the slaughter terrable. Most of your wounded is doing well. Col Morison I know nothing of. He must be killed.

When you write north you will please Let Sister ann know that I am Still alive and in good health. I am verry anxious to hear from her but surcimstances does not afford a chance. I will send this (open) by a flag of truce. Give Leut Walker My compliments.

I Am Your Brother James Campbell

Brother John Left here about Two years ago. I have not hard from him since.

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862

Hannes Seldand Le Dear Westohn I was astomake to hear that from the presoners that you was colore Bearer of the Megus that assetted the Battrey at the fromt the other by when I feet he is it I looked wer the field for you where I met one of the wounder of your High and he toto one that he believed you was safe, I was in the Brest work during he whole engagement doing my heet to theat you but nope that low and I will never gain racet face to face Better enemies in the Battle fiet but if such should bethe case you have but to discharge your deauty to Lour law do I can occurrence to the to desoras go my deauty to my Country & My Calue - in the late Battle the killed on your side evas very heavy in peroportion to the were der and for the forsex engaged the Daughter terrable most of jour wounder is doing well Cot morrow whim nothing of in must be killed When you write north you will you will have Let sister ann know that I am elit at a and in good nath The very a recent to hear from he but burcinstances an not offord a chance - v wi I will send the lopen by a flag of truck , give dent Walker my compliments. I A four Brother Riother John Left here about the Jennes Count till years ago vian not hald from him times

10> The Civil War and Reconstruction

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862 TRANSCRIPTION

James Island S.C. June 16 1862

Dear Wife

We have had a fight. I am all right. James & Matthew is all safe. It was a verry severe fight and we have Lost a good many. We had to fall back to our former position. We charged there fort and would have held it if we had been properly supported. Theres only two wounded in the sixth company. One was Left on the field and its thought hes dead and the other is Daniel Larrance him that served his time with Mcmister. You have seen him in our house in 33rd st. He has got Badly wounded in the right arm. The ball went through the bone. He acted bravely. He was in the fort when the order was given to retreat and it was then he got wounded. I can't see how Jammie Matthew & me got off without a scratch. Some of the 79th pulled two or three of the rebels out of the fort by the hair of the head. Our regiment behaved well. The enemy is strongly fortified on this island.

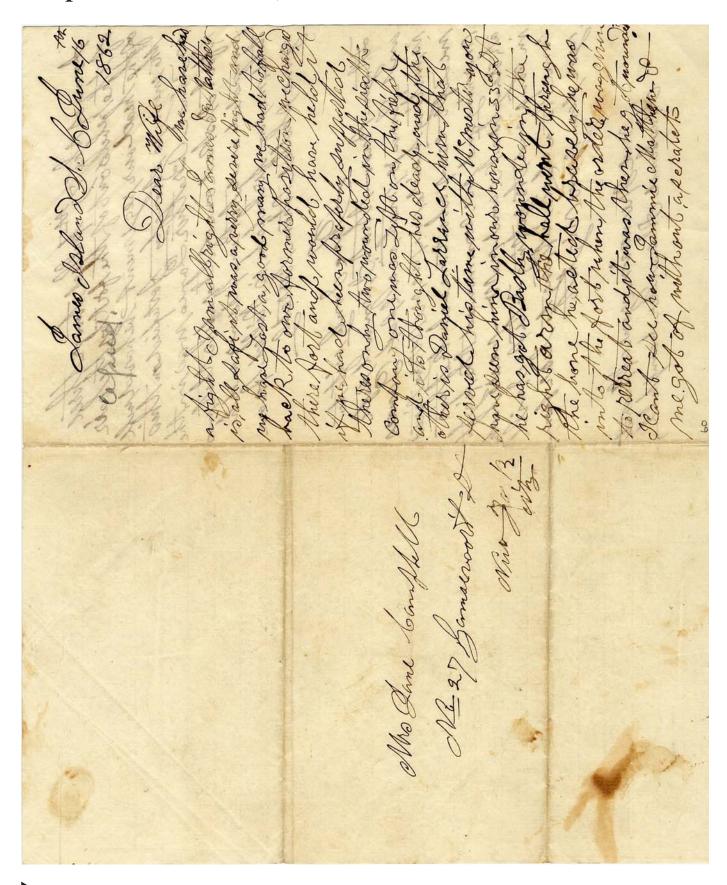
Brother James was in the fort. I asked one of the rebels that was wounded and taken prisoner and he told me so. Perhaps he is Killed for our guns shelled them terribly.

Jane I only write to Let you Know that I am all safe and James & mat is all safe. James is writing beside me. We are verry tired. We Left camp about one oclock this morning and we commenced the fight at day brake and now we are back in camp and its getting Late so I will come to a close hopping to hear from you soon. Good night.

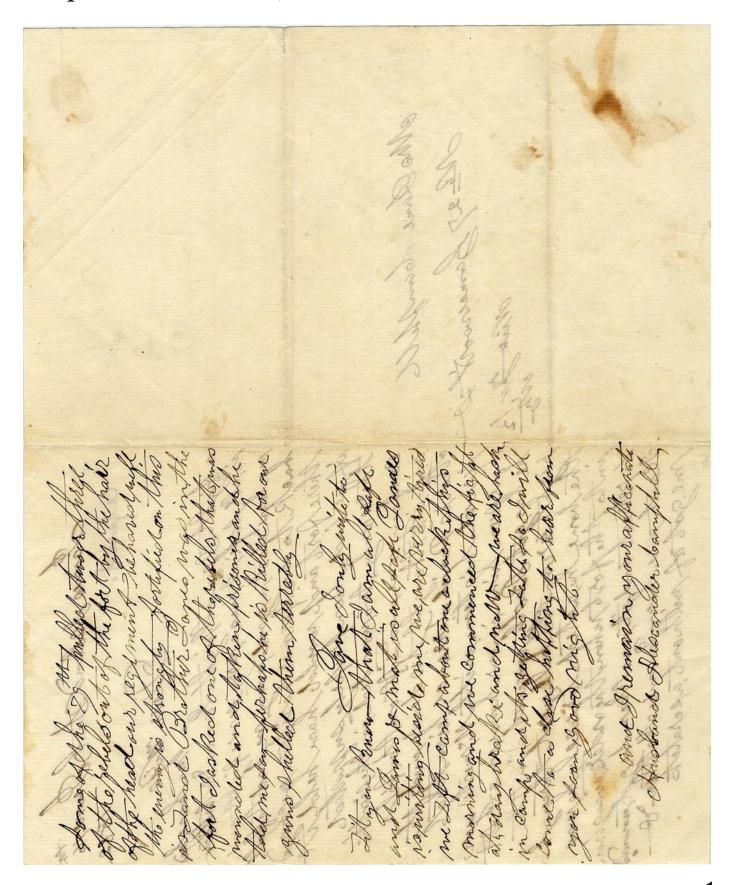
And I remain your afficonate Husband

Alexander Campbell

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862



Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862



Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862 TRANSCRIPTION

James Island S.C. June 25th, 1862

Dear Wife

I received your Letter of the 15th in dew time and I was happy to hear that you all was well. You say you have not got a Letter from me in four weeks. I am surprised at that for I have wrote four since we Left Beaufort but I hope you have received them by this time. We got payed the other day and I will send my money to you the first opportunity. I know you must be in want of money. If we would get payed regular it would not be so bad. In a few days there will be other two months dew us but we will not get it. I wish this war was over for I am sick of it. The weather here is getting verry warm but we are all verry healthy so farr. Our wounded has been all sent to Hilton Head. From there they will be sent home as soon as possible. It was an unfortunate affair and I beleive General Benham is under arreast for it. I hope he will be sent home. General Steavens the night after the battle cryed Like a child about the Loss of so many brave men.

Jane you will be surprised to hear about me getting a Letter from Brother James. It came by a flag of truce. There has been a flag of truce sent for to see about our wounded and get there names and it took tow or three days before they could get all our mens names and James had got word about me being in the 79th from our men that was taken prisoners and he wrote me a Letter. I will send you a copy of it and you will see better what he says. I cant send him one for there wont be any more flaggs of truce going over at present. Its rather too bad to think that we should be fighting him on the one side and me on the other for he says he was in the fort during the whole engagement. I hope to god that he and I will get safe through it all and he will have his story to tell about his side and I will have my story to tell about my side.

Dear Jane I have not got much news this time only that James & mat is well and I am in verry good helth myself hopping this will find you all the same. Little Jonney & Alexander I hope will soon have their pappa home to take them out with mamma to walk. Theres something striks me that this war will be over verry soon and I am shure it can't be too soon for me. Theres a report that our regiment is going away from here coming farther north but theres so many Lies going all the time one cant beleive anything. I will come to a close this time hopping to hear from you soon. So good day and I am Your ever Afficonate Husband.

Alexander Campbell

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862

ames Island, S. C. Lune 25, 1862 Dear mile Trecewed your Letter of the 5 in dew time and Iwas happy to hear that you wins all well you say you have not got a Letter from me in four weeks Jam surprised at that for I have wrote four since ne Left Banafort but I hope you have received themby this time. We got payed the other, day and Swill sendy my money to you the first offertunity Mnow you must be in want of money of me would get payed regular it would not be so had in a few days there will be other two mounths downs but we won't get it I wish this war was over for Jam sich? Ait the weather here is getting verry warm but we are all very healthy so farr our wounded has been all sent to Hilton Head and from there they will be sent home as Soon a possable it was an unfortunate affair and I believe Zeneral Benham is under arreast for it I hope he will be Sent home general steavens the night after the battle cryect Like, a Child about the Loss of somany brave men, ane you will be surprised to hear about me getting a Letter from Brother James it came by a florg of time there has been a flag of truck sent for pee about our wounded, and get there names and it took Hower three days before they could get all our mens names, and James had got word about me being in the 79 from our men.

Campbell Brothers Letters, 1862

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Sherman's March, 1865

Description

From September through December of 1864, after capturing and burning Atlanta, General William Tecumseh Sherman led his Union army through Georgia in his "March to the Sea." Sherman and his men, who did not have provisions and survived from the land and the provisions they confiscated, swept through Georgia to destroy war materials and communication routes, as well as homes and plantations. In the first months of 1865, Sherman traveled northward through South Carolina. This excerpt from the *Daily South Carolinian* relates a letter from a woman in South Carolina, illustrating the wide communication of the destruction caused by Sherman's army, and the belief of South Carolinians that, as their cause was just, they would stop Sherman. Sherman soon tore through the state, including the burning of Columbia on February 18th, and continued on into North Carolina.

Citation

Untitled. Columbia *Daily South Carolinian*. 12 January 1865. Newspapers on microfilm, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicator 3.4-4: Outline the course of the Civil War and South Carolina's role in significant events, including the Secession Convention, the firing on Fort Sumter, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through South Carolina. (H, G)

Standard 4-6: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Civil War and its impact on America.

Indicator 4-6.4: Summarize significant key battles, strategies, and turning points of the Civil War — including the battles of Fort Sumter and Gettysburg, the Emancipation Proclamation, the significance of the Gettysburg Address, and the surrender at Appomattox — and the role of African Americans in the War. (H, G, E)

Standard 8-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and events leading to, and the course of, the American Civil War.

Indicator 8-3.5: Compare the military strategies of the North and South with regard to specific events and geographic locations in South Carolina, including the capture of Port Royal, the Union blockade of Charleston, and Sherman's march through the state. (H, P, G)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.3: Outline the course and outcome of the Civil War, including the role of African American military units; the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation; and the geographic, political, and economic factors involved in the defeat of the Confederacy. (H, G, E, P)

Sherman's March, 1865

Sherman with his victorious troops is on South Carolina soil. He has nearly reached the goal of his ambition, and expects now, by fire and sword, to glut Yankee vengeance on that naughty State which dared four years age to set the vile example of contumacy and rebellion to her Southern sisters. He intends that she shall pay dearly for her folly. He is determined that she shall suffer for the crime which, in his estimation, has put her beyond the pale of mercy and justly outlawed her from God and man. Hear what a writer in his army says: "Our troops have turned their faces Charlestonward. Could you have heard, as I did, their shouts of exultation-could you have seen their countenances lit up with enthusiasm and resolve, you would have angured wee and only wee for that stronghold of rebellion." But neither Sherman nor his men are yet at Charleston, nor do I think they will ever get there. Here on South Carolina soil, I believe that that hitherto successful chieftain will get his first great repulse—a repulse that will finally lead to his utter discomfiture and perhaps ruin. The soil of our mother State will again drink the blood of those foes who would, if possible, call down the fire of Heaven to consume her. Do you ask me whence comes this conviction of success which I dare to cherish, while so many are crying out "We are a God-forsaken people?" I answer, because I believe that God will favor a cause so sacred as ours-because, above all, I believe in the power of prayer, and Christians are praying now as they never prayed before; they are enlisting the God of battles on our side. As a true daughter of the South, I intend to pray for the salvation of my country as I plead for the salvation of my soul. "According to your faith be it unto you," is the answer I expect to receive, and as surely as I know to-morrow's sun will rise, so surely do I know that a great deliverance awaits us by the hand of Him who, thoughout the Bible, declares himself as the champion of the oppressed among the nations.

10> The Civil War and Reconstruction

Oath of Allegiance, 1865

Description

President Lincoln had introduced the idea of allowing individuals to re-enter the Union through an oath of allegiance before the Civil War was over. In 1863, Lincoln issued a proclamation, which offered to pardon most former Confederates who would swear to uphold the Constitution and would reinstate any state into the Union once ten percent of its 1860 voting population took the oath and established a new government. Congress attempted to amend this proclamation in 1864 with the Wade-Davis bill, which required one-half of the state's white male population to take the oath before the state could re-enter the Union. Ultimately, President Andrew Johnson offered amnesty to any former Confederate who took the oath, except those having a post-war fortune of over \$20,000 — they had to apply for a presidential pardon. He appointed provisional governors to call a state constitutional convention to draw up new constitutions supporting the Union and outlawing slavery. This is one example of the oath signed by a South Carolinian from Chester.

Citation

Jacob Strait Gaston Oath of Allegiance. 1865. Papers of the Gaston, Strait, Wylie and Baskin Families. South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicators 3-4.7: Summarize the effects of Reconstruction in South Carolina, including the development of public education, racial advancements and tensions, and economic changes. (H, E, P)

Standard 8-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the impact of Reconstruction on the people and government of South Carolina.

Indicator 8-4.2: Summarize Reconstruction in South Carolina and its effects on daily life in South Carolina, including the experiences of plantation owners, small farmers, freedmen, women, and northern immigrants. (H, P, E)

Oath of Allegiance, 1865 TRANSCRIPTION

[Original.]

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES,

No. 372

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

Chester, S.C., Aug. 31, 1865.

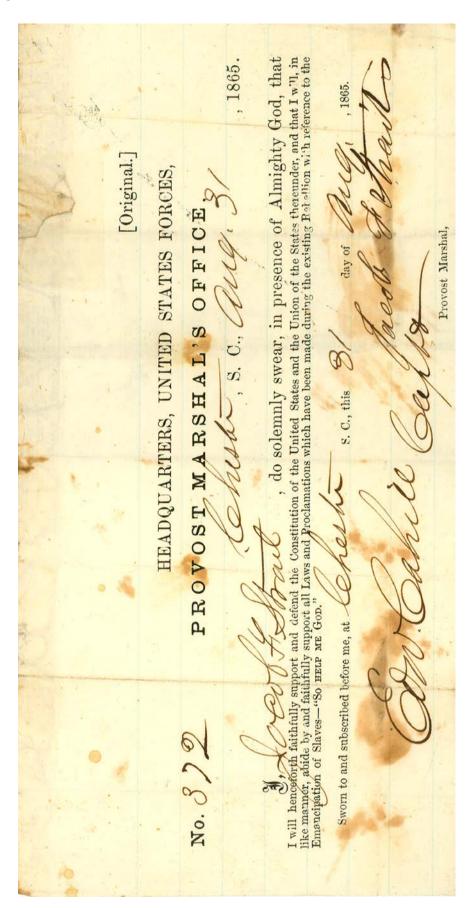
I, Jacob F. Strait, do solemnly swear, in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the State thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all Laws and Proclamations which have been made during the existing Rebellion with reference to the Emancipation of Slaves — "So help me God."

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at Chester S.C., this 31 day of Aug., 1865.

[signed] Jacob F. Strait

[signed] Edw. Cahill Cap[??], Provost Marshal

Oath of Allegiance, 1865





1868 Constitution

Description

The South Carolina State Constitution of 1868 abolished slavery, established universal male suffrage, and removed property qualifications for voting. The new constitution allowed the state to reenter the United States after the Civil War. These two pages are the cover page and the first page of the Constitution, which outlaws slavery within the state.

Citation

Constitutional Convention (1868). Constitution of 1868. S 131081. State Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina.

Standards

Standard 3-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the events that led to the Civil War, the course of the War and Reconstruction, and South Carolina's role in these events.

Indicators 3-4.5: Summarize the effects of the Civil War on the daily lives of people of different classes in South Carolina, including the lack of food, clothing, and living essentials and the continuing racial tensions. (H, E)

Indicators 3-4.7: Summarize the effects of Reconstruction in South Carolina, including the development of public education, racial advancements and tensions, and economic changes. (H, E, P)

Standard 8-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the impact of Reconstruction on the people and government of South Carolina.

Indicators 8-4.3: Summarize the events and the process that led to the ratification of South Carolina's constitution of 1868, including African American representation in the constitutional convention; the major provisions of the constitution; and the political and social changes that allowed African Americans, Northerners, "carpetbaggers," and "scalawags" to play a part in South Carolina state government. (H, P)

Standard USHC-4: The student will demonstrate an understanding of the causes and the course of the Civil War and Reconstruction in America.

Indicator USHC-4.4: Summarize the effects of Reconstruction on the southern states and the roles of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments in that era. (H, P)

1868 Constitution Transcription

Constitution
of the
State of
South Carolina
1868.
Constitution

We, the People of the State of South Carolina, in Convention — assembled, Grateful to Almighty God for this opportunity, deliberately and peaceably of entering into a explicit and solemn compact with each other, and forming a new Constitution of civil Government for ourselves and posterity, recognizing the necessity of the protection of the people in all that pertains to their freedom, safety and tranquility, and imploring the direction of the Great Legislator of the Universe, do agree upon, — ordain and establish the following Declaration of the Rights and Form of Government as the — Constitution of the Commonwealth of South Carolina.

Article 1 Declaration of Rights.

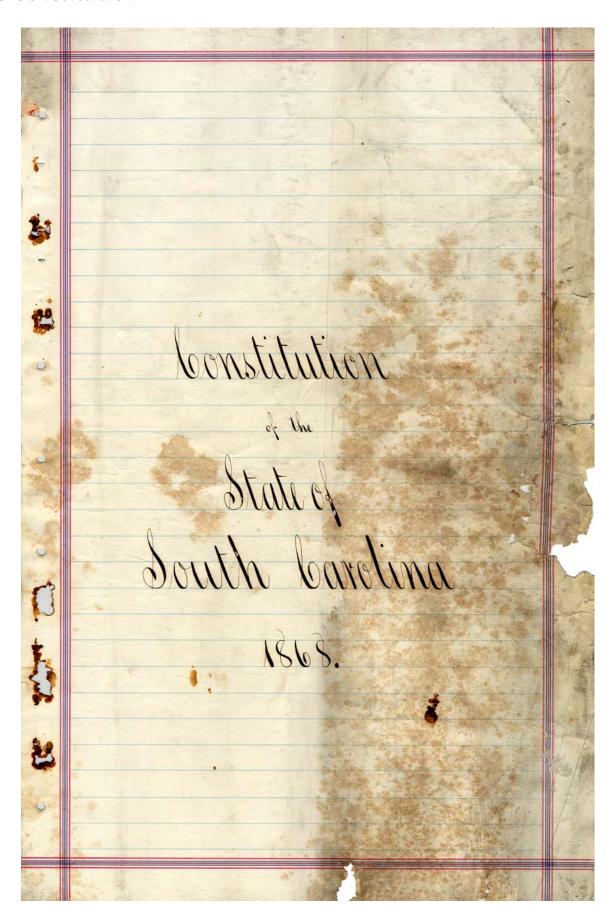
Section 1. All men are born free and equal — endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are the rights of enjoying and — defending their lives and liberties, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and of seeking and obtaining their safety and happiness.

Section 2. Slavery shall never exist in this States; neither shall — involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

Section 3. All political power is rested in and derived from the people only; therefore they have the right, at all times, to modify their form of government in such manner as they may deem expedient, when the public good demands.

Section 4. Every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution

1868 Constitution



1868 Constitution

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